20. With regard to the defendants' prior convictions, on April 5, 1993, in Huntingdon County Court, Huntingdon, Pennsylvania, under Docket No. 1991 CA 438, James Loner, was convicted of possession with intent to deliver cocaine and was sentenced to fifteen to fifty-nine months imprisonment. On January 21, 1994, in Huntingdon County Court, Huntingdon, Pennsylvania, under Docket No. 1992 CA 222, Kenneth Simmons, Jr., was convicted of delivery of cocaine and was sentenced to ten to thirty-six months imprisonment. Because of their felony convictions, the defendants were prohibited from possessing the firearms or ammunition.

#### Victim Impact

21. The Government has identified no specific victim in the instant case.

#### Adjustment for Obstruction of Justice

22. There is no evidence that the defendant impeded or obstructed justice.

#### Adjustment for Acceptance of Responsibility

23. The defendant, at the direction of counsel, declined to discuss the offense because he intends to appeal. Mr. Loner related that he has not "messed" with crack since 1994, when he reportedly overcame his crack addiction.

#### Offense Level Computation

- 24. The sentencing guidelines effective November 1, 1998, were used in the following calculations.
- 25. In the case of James N. Loner, Jr., Count I (conspiracy to distribute and possess with intent to distribute cocaine) and Count II (distribution and possession with intent to distribute cocaine base) are grouped into a single group under USSG § 3D1.2(b), because they involve a conspiracy and a substantive count. Count VIII (felon in possession of ammunition) is also grouped into this group under § 3D1.2(c), because the count embodies conduct that is treated as a specific offense characteristic in the applicable guideline. Count VI (aiding and abetting another to use or carry a firearm during and in relation to a drug trafficking crime) is excluded from grouping under USSG § 3D1.1(b), because the statute mandates a consecutive sentence and becomes its own group. However, the Count VIII conduct is then excluded as a specific offense characteristic in the drug violation's group because of the Count VI conviction, pursuant to § 2K2.4, Application Note 2.

### GROUP ONE - Counts I, II and VIII

\* 26. Base Offense Level: The guideline for 21 USC § 846 and § 841 offenses is found in USSG § 2D1.1, which provides for a base offense level of thirty-eight for offenses involving 1.5 kilograms or more of cocaine base.

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# FXHIBIT

MR. DEVECKA: Well, I told you off the record at sidebar that I wasn't able to do that.

THE COURT: I've got to go by the status of the case now.

MR. DEVECKA: I understand that, Your Honor, and arguing the earlier opinion I think does nothing.

THE COURT: All right. Mr. Loner, this is a very sad situation because I personally feel that these federal sentencing guidelines are much, much more severe than they should be when we are dealing with cocaine and crack cocaine. Unfortunately the law requires me to comply with the federal sentencing guidelines which creates the range where I must sentence you, and I hope at some point that something might occur that would enable the Court to reduce your sentence because I think a sentence such as I have to impose on you today is very unfair and unrealistic, but, as I said, and I'm not a member of the Congress, but I do have to comply with whatever laws they enact.

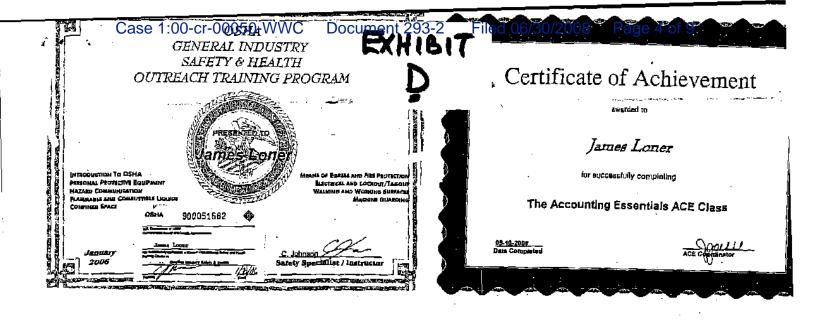
Pursuant to the Sentencing Reform Act it is the judgment of the Court that the defendant James N. Loner, Jr. be committed to the custody of the Bureau of Prisons to be imprisoned for a term of 360 months. This term consists of terms of 360 months on each of Counts I and II and 60 months on Count VIII. These sentences are to be served concurrently. On Count VI the defendant is ordered to serve

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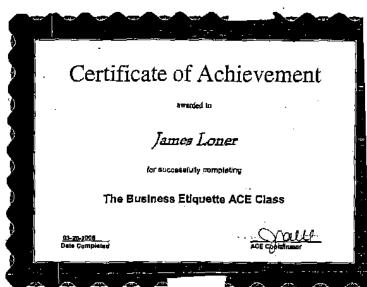
of judicial proceedings." <u>Johnson</u>, 520 U.S. at 466-67 (internal quotations and citations omitted); United States v. Olano, 507 U.S. 725, 732-36 (1993). Loner's argument must be rejected because Apprendi error occurred and therefore he cannot satisfy the first plain error factor.

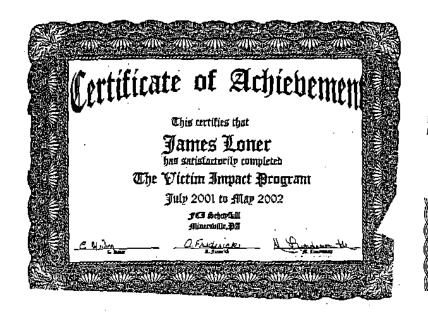
In Apprendi, the Supreme Court held that "[o]ther than the fact of a prior conviction, any fact that increases the penalty for a crime beyond the prescribed statutory maximum must be submitted to a jury, and proved beyond a reasonable doubt." 120 S.Ct. at 2362-63. Under this regime, the "prescribed statutory maximum" is the punishment the defendant faces under the facts found by the jury. See id. At 2359, 2362-63; United States v. Nordby, 225 F.3d 1053, 1059 (9th Cir. 2000). Additionally - and of central importance in this case - is that determining whether an Apprendi error has occurred requires that each specific sentence must be individually assessed in terms of the prescribed statutory maximum on the relevant count. See Apprendi, 120 S.Ct. at 2354.

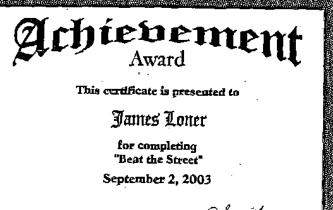
\* In Loner's case, each specific sentence he received fell within the prescribed statutory maximum sentence on the relevant count, and therefore Apprendi was not violated. First, as for the drug counts, the District Court did not submit the issues of drug quantity or drug type attributable to Loner to the jury. Under these circumstances, the only penalty authorized by the jury's guilty verdict is the one set forth in 21 U.S.C. §841(b)(1)(C), which (with one exception not relevant here) criminalizes conduct involving controlled substances without reference to drug quantity. See United States v. Jones, 235 F.3d 1231, 1236 (10th Cir. 2000); see also United States v. Anderson, 236 F.3d 427, 429 (8th Cir. 2001) (per curiam). The prescribed statutory maximum sentence under that provision is 30 years if the violation was committed "after a prior conviction for a felony drug offense has become final." 21 U.S.C. §841(b)(1)(C). Loner has a prior felony drug offense: in 1991 he pled guilty in











FCI Schuylkill

## Certificate of Award

This certifies that

### JAMES LONER

hus completed the required curriculum and assignments w receive certification in

Porenting Skills Program – Level I

awarded by

The Parenting Program

The Bethesda Family Services Loundation

Class Hours Completed 22

ate August 14, 2001

9-0-

### Certificate of Amard

This curfifies that

### JAMES LONER

has completed the required curriculum and assignments to receive veryification in

Parenting Skills Program - Level II

awarded by

The Parenting Program

The Bethesda Family Services Foundation

Class Hours Completed 22

Dace November 6, 2001

William J. B. lanney

# Certificate of Award

This certifies that

### James Loner

Has completed the required curriculum and assignments of the

# Advanced Parenting Program Level III

Awarded bu

Bethesda Family Services Foundation
"Healing Hearts and Changing Lives"

Completed 20 Class Hours

June 3, 2004

James Dressler, Programs Supervisor

Mind Troisi, Parenting Instructor

# Certificate of Award

This certifies that

### James Loner

Has completed the required curriculum and assignments of the

# Advanced Parenting Program Level IV

Awarded by

Bethesda Family Services Foundation
"Healing Hearts and Changing Lives"

Completed 22 Class Hours

-- 41,000,110,01

James Dressler, Programa Supervisor

August 26, 2004

Mini Troisi, Parenting Instructor

# Certificate of Award

This certifies that

James Loner

Has completed the required curriculum and assignments of the

Advanced Parenting Program Level V

Awurded by

Bethesda Family Services Foundation
"Healing Hearts and Changing Lives"

Completed 20 Class Hours .

November 18, 2004

<u>Dominis</u> Horbse

Richard Rodgers, Administrative Manager

onger Dominic Herbst, President

Certificate of Award

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# Certificate of Award

This certifies that

### James Loner

It as completed the required curriculum and assignments of the

# Advanced Parenting Program Level VIII

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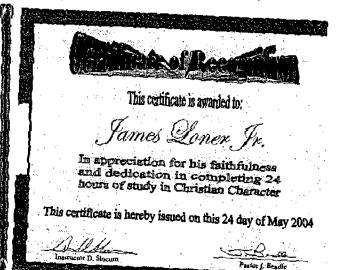
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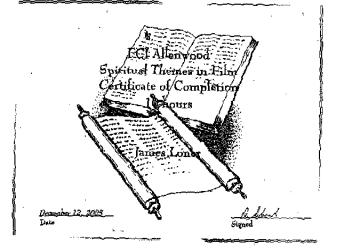
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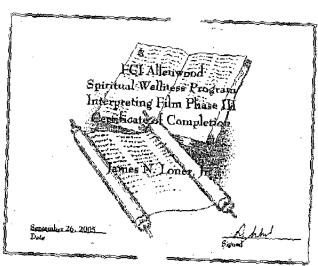
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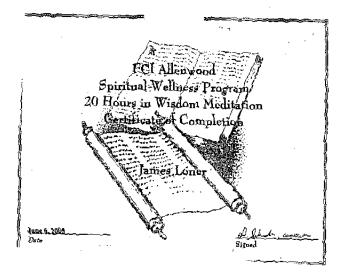
Nancy A. Wesner, Parenting Instructor

Richard Radgess
Richard Rudgers, Administrative Manager









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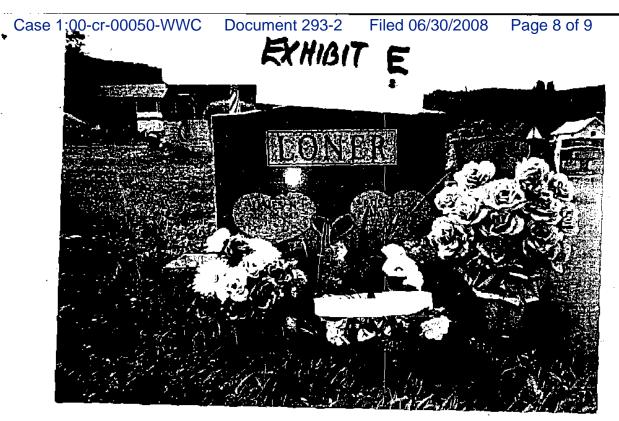
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ALM	10 HOUR OSHA TRAINING	11-09-2005	01-25-2006	P	C	Þ	1.8		
ALM	LEGAL RESEARCH ACE COURSE	06-29-2004	08-25-2004	P	C	₽	18		
SCH	BEAT THE STREET	08-08-2003	09-02-2003	P	C	₽	5		
SCH	PRE-REL VICTIM IMPACT GROUP	07-20-2001	03-29-2002	P	$\mathcal{C}$	P·	68		
SCH	PARENTING TWO	08-30-2001	11-09-2001	P	C	₽	22		
SCH	FCI PAR 1A - PARENTING ONE	06-05-2001	08-14-2001	P	C	Р	22		





Antwaun



April 30, 2008

Mr. James Loner Rey. No. 09982-067 PCI Ebril (med) P. O. Hox 699 Earil, South Carolina 29918

Dear James:

In response to your letter, I would advise you than Canon 2 of the Code of audicial Conduct prohibits me from making any recommendations or from testifying as a character wirness.

Given Judge Culdwell's comments, I don't really think you need much help.

Best reducids, I am

Sincerely,

STULLY LET (CUL)

SLK/enk

